

Mar. 22, 1858

Dowd's Resignation
3/22/1858

To the Board of Trustees of
Dickinson Seminary;

Gentlemen:

I hereby present
a formal resignation (already
virtually made) of my position
as Principal of Dickinson Seminary.

In thus carrying out a long
cherished and oft expressed
desire to enter upon the lighter
and more congenial work of
the pastorate, I shall bear with
me a grateful recollection of ^{our}
pleasant association and of
your kindness and courtesy
towards me.

Having given ten years of
the best part of my life, to aid
in founding the seminary, and
in advancing it to its present
honorable position among the

best literary institutions of the
country, I shall continue to
cherish the warmest affection
towards it, and shall ever
take pleasure in promoting
its interests.

Respectfully
Williamson, Thos. Bowman
Mar 22. 1888.

PEN PORTRAIT
OF
BISHOP THOMAS BOWMAN
from
The ladies Repository
August 1874

P E N P O R T R A I T
OF
B I S H O P T H O M A S B O W M A N
from

The Ladies Repository
August 1874

Our Portrait - In our current number, steel and printer's ink have done their best - or worst, as the case may be - toward preserving and handing down to posterity the features of Bishop Thomas Bowman, as they were limned by light itself on the collodion plate, when he was fifty-seven years of age. We wish we could place alongside of it the picture, hung with others in the gallery of memory, as he appeared in the flush of sixteen-year-old boyhood, when he entered Cazenovia Seminary, to prepare for college, in 1832. W. C. Larrabee was principal; Wm. H. Allen and John Johnston were teachers; B. F. Tefft, H. Bannister, S. M. Vail, and others now widely known, were his school-mates. Between Christmas and New-Year of that year, the Seminary was visited with one of those sweeping revivals which have so often characterized Methodist institutions. The tide of feeling and interest arose so high that, for a day or two, recitations were suspended, and the voice of prayer and penitence, went up from the rooms and hearts all over the building. One morning, several of us repaired to the house of a devoted woman of Cazenovia village, "Sister Cobb" (the mention of whose name will call up a thrill in many a bosom), and there

wrestled with God for the conversion of our weeping companions. At noon we returned to the Seminary, and, in place of repairing to the dining-hall, turned into the spacious room on the first floor, at the left of the hall, in the old chapel building. Principal Larrabee led the meeting, and it was one of power. In that meeting young Bowman and his cousin (General) S. M. Bowman, and if we mistake not, (Doctor) S. M. Vail, with others, first publicly confessed Christ.

A lady correspondent at our instance, writes: It was in the Summer of 1850 that I first met Rev. Thomas, now Bishop, Bowman. Our party, eastward bound, had stopped for the night at Williamsport - a beautiful town, nestled in the magnificence of the Susquehanna Valley, in Northern Pennsylvania - then only a country village of a few thousand inhabitants, but now a thriving city.

We sat talking and resting in the dusk of the Summer eve, when one of our number (Dr. H. M. Johnson, of precious memory) suddenly remarked, "Here is where Bowman is principal of a new seminary", and immediately went out in quest of him. After a brief absence, he returned, bringing the gentleman with him, and the warm and kindly greetings of old friends followed; for such they had been long ago, as school-fellows at Cazenovia Seminary, N. Y.

I was the stranger, and the audience. I alone had no reminiscences to recall, no new experiences to relate, no tidings of mutual friends to recount; but listened with unabated interest, on toward the wee small hours, to those of these

people who had parted at the threshold of life, and, by Providence, led in paths widely apart through eventful years, had this evening met again for the first time.

I do not know whether Bishop Bowman would interest me now as then, looking at him through the enthusiastic eyes of youth. I contemplated him with very great pleasure that evening, in the midst of old friends and memories. The ample forehead, too pale for health; blue eyes, very pure and pleasing in their expression; the whole face, spiritual and crowned with a golden shadow of hair; a cheerful smile, lapsing always into seriousness; a voice clear and sweet, with a suspicion of pathos in its cadences, such as one lingers to hear; the slight form; the manner exceedingly simple graceful and direct - a manner which, without design, wins at once the confidence of man, woman or child - all these are photographed on my mind, a part of the agreeable reminiscences of a Summer's travel.

The next day, as we climbed, in the good oldtime coach-and-four the Laurel Mountain, and conversation wandered here and there, like a bee for honey (having time), one of the party inquired of our oracle, "What of Professor Bowman?" To which the oracle replied, "He is graceful enough to be a courtier, simple enough for a Puritan, frank enough for a child, grave as a judge, and pleasant as a woman. His common sense and conciliatory spirit will probably keep him by still waters and in pretty good pastures." The oracle spoke truly.

At the expiration of a year, I was thrown into a position which brought me into almost daily contact with him for a term of years, during which time all my first impressions of him were confirmed.

I early noticed his dislike of display, and the severe simplicity which marked his surroundings, and which intercourse with people of the world, eminent in rank and fashion, never for a moment modified; a quality needed then, and still more now, as a reproof and example to our people, whose tendency is to ostentation rather than to genuine refinement and intellectual culture. His influence in this regard was decided upon the young ladies and gentlemen in his care. They dreaded the playful remark, without censure, without sarcasm, with which he rebuked any manifestation of frivolous display. His own agreeable appearance made the offender feel that he had violated the law of taste, while the serious character of the reprover indicated worthier and higher pursuits.

No elegant gifts ever decoyed him from the neat and modest style which was natural to him, and which he also conscientiously maintained as a Christian gentleman. Even the little children understood this. His little tell-tale boy once entertained me with the history of "Papa's boots", elegant and noticeable boots presented him by some friend, which "papa had gone and given away, because if he wore them when he went to see the folks, they would think he was getting proud." He succeeded in correcting this fondness for display in his

students, a word from him being sufficient; and those who have undertaken this task will know that to be no common success.

Bishop Bowman was at that time an advocate of the co-education of the two sexes. He also favored the medical education of ladies, and had large faith in what woman is, and can be.

He required that a young lady should be genuine in her education and accomplishments; mistress of principles rather than a seeker of effects; sensible, serious and lovely; industrious and skillful in whatever pertains to her domestic sphere - all of which were of equal importance. "A noble woman nobly planned", was the formula for the moral atmosphere he created around the ladies of the seminary, and one to which many of them have nobly responded.

In the recitation-room, he was hailed with delight. "He makes everything as clear as a sunbeam," was the common criticism. Quite as much a favorite in the pulpit we were not often favored with his appearance there. The charge of a large family and of a seminary of learning left him little time for pulpit preparation; but nevertheless, he sometimes, like a giant refreshed with wine, moved an audience deeply with the might of his eloquence. Possessing preaching talent of the first order - clear, logical, direct, fervent, and eloquent - with his never failing naturalness of gesture, such a man could not be otherwise than a general favorite. He had, however, a native dignity which repelled undue familiarity, notwithstanding the smallness of his person; and an urbanity and personal charm which disarmed all dislike and opposition. He was claimed on all social occasions. The country Thanksgiving festivity waited for him as much as the reception at the

Governor's. Always the same simple, unpretending man, he recalls the example of Him who was equally at home and about his Father's business whether in the cottage at Bethany or the palace of the ruler.

When once life is given singly to work, it is easy to accomplish much; but how he managed, amid his numerous social and other weighty demands, to keep up with the times, to know what was going on in the literary and scientific and religious world, is still an enigma to me. In these matters, he was always with the latest advance.

The two churches, for the masses, the Romish and the Methodist, afford opportunity for the machinations of the ambitious offered by none other. The aspirant for office here has a fair arena, and, happily for the world, an equally fair one for the aspirant for usefulness and holiness. Not all the clergy of either Church have learned the value of the beautiful admonition of Kempis, "Relinquish desire, and thou shalt find rest." In Paul's time, they who desired the office of a Bishop, desired it with all its seeming poverty, contempt, toil and persecution. There are none in these changed times to whom this "good work" of the Church has been given, who, judging from the past, has obtained it with less ambition, with less desire for the attendant honors and good things of this life, or who, still judging from the past, will exemplify by the simplicity and humility of his life the saying of Jesus, "My kingdom is not of this world"; and there are none whose election to this office gave more heart-felt pleasure to those who knew him best and longest than Bishop Bowman's.

The Rev. Thomas Bowman, A.M., D.D., L.L.D.

Senior Bishop of The Methodist Episcopal Church

Thomas was the only son of John and Sarah Bowman. He was born in the old Bowman home in what is now Briar Creek on July 15, 1817. He was a happy boy, well-mannered from his home teachings, popular with his playmates, and even inclined to be somewhat mischievous.

His Education

The first graduation of Thomas Bowman was from the common school in the Pines, where it did not take him long to complete the course. As a youth he was rather undersize, but active and strong, and a very good student.

When Thomas was about fourteen, he spent a year as a student at Wilbraham Academy in Massachusetts. The next year he entered Casenovia Seminary in New York State. Thomas remained here two years.

January 1, 1833, he was converted and joined the church.

In the autumn of 1835 he entered the Junior Class in Dickinson College where he soon took high rank as a student. At the age of 20 years, Thomas graduated Bachelor of Arts, receiving the first honors of his class.

In 1838 Thomas Bowman entered the law-school, associated with Dickinson College, as a post-course. One of his classmates here was A. G. Curtin, who later became the Governor of Pennsylvania.

While making commendable progress toward the profession of Law, a conviction of a different calling began to find place in his conscience, a fact which gave a new direction to his

whole life. Before the close of the year he became convinced that he should devote his life to the Christian ministry. Accordingly in the spring of 1839 he was recommended as a proper person to be received on trial in the Baltimore Annual Conference, which met on March 13 in Baltimore.

His Ministry

His first appointment was to a mission among the coal mountains of Beaver Meadows, Carbon County, Pennsylvania, where he was very happy in his work and served with success for one year.

He was then recalled by Dickinson College to take the position of Asst. Principal of the grammar school associated with Dickinson College.

Here he did good work and was employed from 1840 to 1843 inclusive.

At this time, in consequence of his own shattered health and also the rapid decline of his father's health, Thomas resigned his position and returned to Berwick to take charge of his father's business at the mills. At the same time he found it necessary to take a supernumerary relation with work in his conference which continued from 1843 to 1848. He was never a "superannuated" minister, as stated in the "Cyclopoedia of Methodism".

It was in 1843 that he and one Rev. William S. Hall of the Baptist Church had a great debate over the merits of baptisimal sprinkling as opposed to over all immersion.

Thomas Bowman As An Educator

In 1848 Thomas Bowman was elected Principal of Williamsport Dickinson Seminary where he labored for ten years with gratifying success. The institution was in its formative period when he assumed charge, and when he resigned several large buildings had been erected and there was an enrollment of four hundred pupils.

In 1853 Ohio Wesleyan University conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

In 1858 he was appointed as minister to the church in Lewisburg, Penna., and while in service there he was elected to the Presidency of Indiana Asbury University --now DePauw University--entering upon his duties there in the following year.

President Bowman infused new life into the University, which was thought to be on the verge of failure when he took charge. He changed the course of study, new buildings were built, the endowment fund increased three-fold, and the number of students increased four-fold.

In 1864 when President Bowman was forty-seven years of age, he was elected Chaplain of the United States Senate.

In 1864 he was made, by the General Conference, co-delegate with Bishop James to represent the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States to the Wesleyan Methodist Conference in England.

In 1872 Dickinson College, his old alma mater, bestowed upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

In May, 1872, in Brookly, N. Y. , when eight persons of

distinction were elected Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church by the General Conference, President Bowman led the ticket, was elected to the Episcopacy on the first ballot and by the largest vote.

In 1878 Bishop Bowman was selected for the second time to represent his church at the Wesleyan Conference at Bradford, England, and to supervise the mission work abroad in Europe and Asia. He accordingly traveled through Great Britain, France, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Italy. From Briudisi, Italy, on November 4, 1878, the Bishop embarked for Bombay, India, returning in March, 1879, in much affection.

In 1881 by Episcopal appointment, Bishop Bowman again visited the mission fields abroad and included Japan and China, returning home by way of San Francisco.

It was largely through the influence of Bishop Bowman that the Hon. Washington C. DePauw of New Albany, Indiana, became interested in Indiana Asbury University. Its name was changed to DePauw University, new parks were added to its grounds, and new buildings constructed. Bishop Bowman was elected its Chancellor.

About this same time (1884) Bishop Bowman became the Senior Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, by reason of the death of Bishop Simpson.

Thomas Bowman has been memorialized at Dickinson College where a new faculty chair, "The Thomas Bowman Professorship of Religion", has been named after him.

Thomas Bowman reached the ripe old age of 97 when he died in 1914.

From A Book
ON THE
Bowman
Family

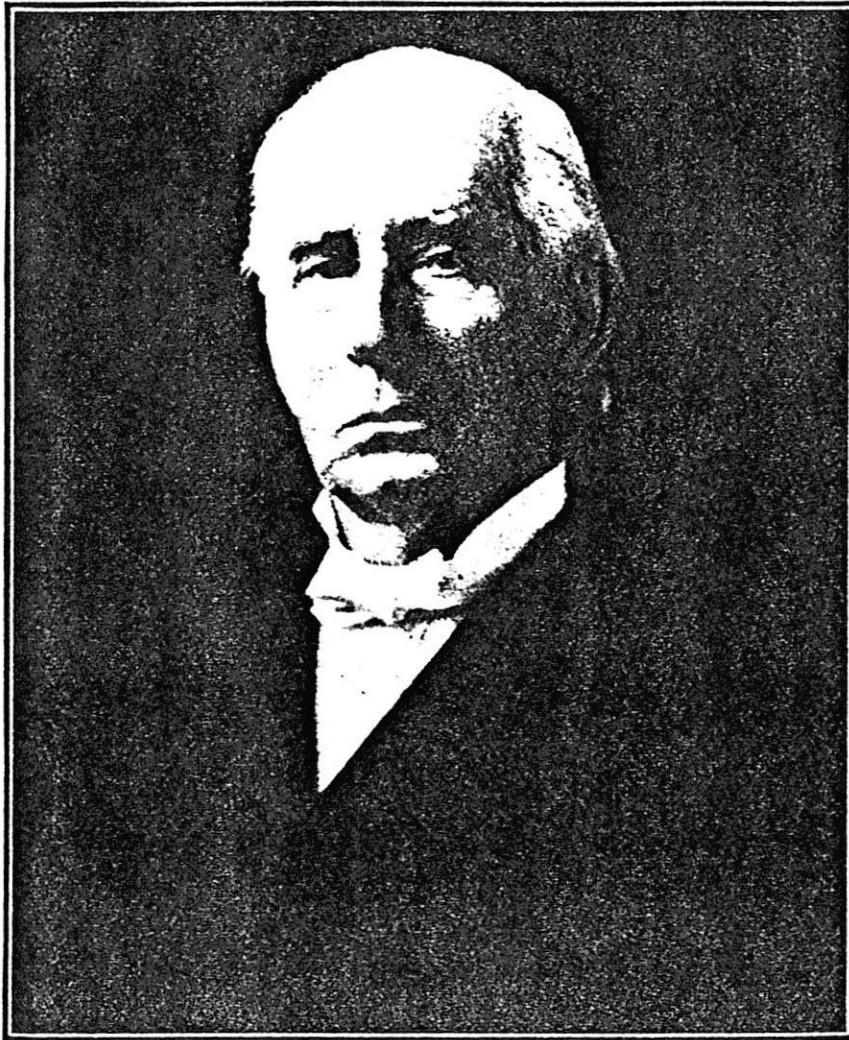
Relevant Addenda

THE BROTHERS AND SISTERS OF THE JESSE
BOWMAN OF THIS GENEALOGY AND WHERE
FURTHER INFORMATION OF THEM AND
THEIR DESCENDANTS MAY BE FOUND.

THERE were nine children in the family of Christopher and Susan Banks Bowman, Jesse being the third son and sixth child. With the exception of Thomas the first born whose advent was in Bucks Co. Pennsylvania all were born and reared on the "Bowman-Farm" near Mount Bethel in Northampton County, Pa. There they married and lived until their removal, with their parents, (1792-1797) to Briar Creek Twp. Columbia County, Pa. Three of them did not sojourn there but settled in other parts, a daughter locating near Muncy, Pa., another daughter about nine miles north of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, and the youngest son a few miles from Briar Creek over the border in the adjoining county of Luzerne. Of these several branches of the family brief mention follows.

REV. THOMAS BOWMAN, SR., grandfather of Bishop Thomas Bowman, was born in Bucks County, Pa. Dec. 6, 1760; died April 9, 1823 in Briar Creek Twp. Pa., and was buried in the rear of the stone church in the erection of which he was very largely instrumental. In 1782 he married Mary Freas, born 1759, to whom ten children were born. Her death occurred July 4, 1829; beside her husband and several of their children she sleeps in the stone church burial ground. Among their descendants have been many preachers and educators and preachers wives, some of them of wide prominence and note. The Rev. Shadrach L. Bowman A.M., S.T.D. and the Reverend Thomas Bowman, LL.D., twenty-second bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, both preachers and educators, were the grand-sons of Rev. Thomas Bowman, Sr. Rev. Jesse Bowman Young, D.D., soldier, editor and author was a great grandson. A volume entitled the "Bowman Family", by the Rev. S. L. Bowman named above, published in 1886, treasures very valuable information of

THIS ARTICLE IS INCOMPLETE
BUT IT TELLS WHERE THE
ENTIRE VOLUME CAN BE
FOUND AT DEER UNIVERSITY
DON'T KNOW WHY WE DON'T
HAVE THE COMPLETE ARTICLE



BISHOP THOMAS BOWMAN, LL. D.

this branch of the family. Copies of this book may be found in the library of Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J., and other libraries and in the homes of the family connection.

REV. CHRISTIAN BOWMAN was born at Mt. Bethel, Pa. A.D. 1761; died January 26, 1831. Both he and his brother Thomas were Local Preachers ordained by Bishop Francis Asbury Sunday July 19, 1807, at a camp-meeting at Forty-Fort, near Kingston, Pa. Effort to individualize the family of Christian Bowman has met with but partial success. He married Rebecca Stackhouse and they were blessed with children. Rev. William Colbert, July 11, 1793, made this entry in his journal:—"I preached the funeral sermon of little Susie, the daughter of Christian Bowman." Eleven years afterward he was at Christian Bowman's reading and writing, and records:—"How disagreeable to be in other peoples homes among noisy children." Not little Susie only, but some of their other children may not have reached maturity. Four only in this family have we been able to trace. A daughter married a Mr. Hutton; her tomb and those of her father and mother are near each other in the stone church burying-ground. Huldah, another daughter born at Mt. Bethel, Pa. in 1787, at the age of twenty-one married Nathan Dodson. Huldah died 1860; her husband 1874. Fletcher, son of Christian and Rebecca Stackhouse Bowman, was born in Briar-Creek Twp. Pa. 1793; died 1875. He married in 1815 Nathan Dodson's sister Ellen who outlived him six years. The "Dodson Genealogy" a work compiled by Rev. Thompson P. Ege, D.D., and published about 1900 is replete with data pertaining to Huldah and Fletcher Bowman and their descendants, a goodly number of whom have this "Dodson-Genealogy." A separate paragraph is given below to Eleanor Bowman, the only other child of Christian and Rebecca Stackhouse Bowman of whom we have knowledge.

ELEANOR BOWMAN and her husband Joseph Diltz had a family of four children. Bowman Diltz, a son, died in Illinois. Rebecca, a daughter, who also died in the state of Illinois, married Fletcher Cortright: their oldest son was Bowman Cortright and the younger Oscar; their daughter Margaretta married Stephen Hicks who, previous to their removal to Nebraska, lived near

MARCH 4, 1914



BISHOP THOMAS BOWMAN

RECORD CAREER CLOSE AS BISHOP BOWMAN DIE

"Grand Old Man" of Methodism
Passes Away After 61 Years
of Active Service.

LONG NOTED AS EDUCATOR

Founded Dickinson Seminary
and for a Time Was Head
of De Pauw University.

Orange, N. J., March 3.—Bishop Thomas Bowman, formerly president of De Pauw University, the patriarch of Methodism in America, died here today at the home of his daughter. He was 97 years old, and no other bishop in the service of that church ever had reached such an advanced age. He had been affectionately known for a generation as the "Grand Old Man of the Faith."

Sixty-one years of Dr. Bowman's life were spent in active church service, the longest record known for continuous church work. He never took a vacation. Thirty-seven years were passed in preaching and in educating students in the creed of the Methodism and 24 as a bishop. His career in the Methodist ministry was begun at the Baltimore conference in 1839. In 1848 he founded and became president of Dickinson Seminary at Williamsport, Pa. Later he became president of De Pauw University.

It was during this period that he served for a year, 1864-65, as chaplain of the United States Senate and became acquainted with Abraham Lincoln. He early became suspicious of attempts to assassinate Lincoln and was one of the first to warn.

It was as a bishop that he gained world-wide celebrity. He traveled 120,000 miles, visiting Methodist churches throughout the world, dedicated 1100 churches and attended every important conference held in his active years in Mexico, India, China and Japan. His closing years were spent in Orange with his daughter, Mrs. B. Caldwell, wife of the president of Wells-Fargo Express Company. Besides Mrs. Caldwell, the bishop is survived by the following children: George P. Smith, Baltimore; Theo. G. Bowman, Los Angeles; Charles Thomas M. Bowman, St. Louis; Bowman, Denver; and C. B. Bowman, Tennessee.

The bishop's body will be taken to Greencastle, Ind., the seat of De Pauw University, where the funeral will be held on Friday.

NORTH AMERICAN

MAR. 4, 1914

BISHOP BOWMAN, FOR 61 YEARS IN CHURCH, DIES

Long Known as Patriarch of
Methodism—Founded Williams-
port Dickinson Seminary

DEDICATED 1100 EDIFICES

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Thomas Bowman
March 4, 1914

MARCH 4, 1914

Philadelphia Press
March 4, 1914

BISHOP BOWMAN, 97 YEARS OLD, DEAD

Patriarch of Methodism in
America and Ex-President
of De Pauw University.

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His closing years were spent at Orange with his daughter, Mrs. B. D. Caldwell, wife of the president of Wells-Fargo Express Company. Besides Mrs. Caldwell, the bishop is survived by the following children:—

Mrs. George P. Smith, Baltimore; Theodore G. Bowman, Los Angeles; Charles and Thomas M. Bowman, St. Louis; F. B. Bowman, Denver, and G. B. Bowman, Tennessee.

The bishop's body will be taken to Greencastle, Ind., the seat of De Pauw University, where the funeral will be held on Friday.

Bishop Thomas Bowman



Patriarch of Methodism in America who died yesterday at Orange, N. J. He was ninety-seven years old and for sixty years was active in the service of the Methodist church. He was a bishop for twenty-four years.

Reminiscent.

The death of that "grand old man of Methodism," Bishop Thomas Bowman, which occurred at Baltimore on Tuesday of last week, March 3, when the years had marked up for him within three of a century, started in the memory of the writer a line of reminiscence which runs back into the past for sixty-six full years. Because, by many of its older readers, Bishop Bowman was personally known and greatly loved, some of these rambling memories may not be out of place in the Howard letter:

When the writer was a chubby boy of seven years, living with his parents on the spot upon which the government building, (post office) in Williamsport now stands, a slender, active young man, with his family moved into a house nearby. He was then the Rev. Thomas Bowman, and had come to organize and take charge of Dickinson Seminary, to be opened in the small building which now constitutes the west end of that flourishing institution, and which was at that time not completed. The old Pine street Methodist church was utilized for the purposes of the school, the small rooms on the ground floor serving for class rooms, the young clergyman being the principal. In the class room next the large Sunday School room, and on the north side of the building, the primary class, of which the writer was a member, was installed, with a most accomplished and lovable young lady, Miss Kate Creever, as teacher. Death too soon claimed her and the childish grief of the writer and his classmates was unbounded. It is a pleasing local coincidence that the young pastor of the Methodist church in this place at this time, Rev. James Edwin Dunning, is a grand nephew of this young lady. Later Rev. Bowman became Dr. Bowman, but for several years remained at the head of Dickinson Seminary which grew in importance and usefulness. During his residence in Williamsport in this capacity, the writer was a more or less constant pupil of Dr. Bowman. The relations between the two families grew to be of the most intimate friendship, and the pupil learned to love and revere his schoolmaster to a degree not far removed from worship.

In the course of years Dr. Bowman's success as an educator caused him to be called to the presidency of De Pauw University, at Greencastle, Indiana, but while rolling years and passing events made personal intercourse infrequent, the reverence and love for the great, good man never diminished. The Rev. Dr. became Bishop Bowman, and the interest and affection only increased, stimulated, perhaps by the occasional greetings made possible by the assembling of conferences over which the venerable prelate presided, in this section of the State.

In the meantime the writer had been accepted as the husband of one of the best and loveliest of all God's gifts to men, who had also been a pupil of the great educator and between whom and herself there had developed a strong bond of friendship and love, and these two had made the

ers resort to passing altogether, and their guards are continually breaking up their opponents' passes. Hess and Krebs have been doing in the Seminary gymnasium, starting at 3 o'clock. Alex Jackson will referee. Admission, 25 cents.

NEW YORK EVENING POST, MARCH 3, 1914. NEW

BISHOP BOWMAN IS DEAD

WAS OLDEST IN THE METHODIST
EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

Aged Clergyman Was Ninety-seven
Years of Age — Had Been Friend
of Lincoln and Was Active in Fur-
thering Missionary Work and in
Educational Labors.

ORANGE, N. J., March 3.—Bishop Thomas Bowman, the oldest bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died this afternoon at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Burns D. Caldwell, at 81 High Street. He was ninety-seven years of age. He had been confined to his bed for six months, and death was due to old age. Besides Mrs. Caldwell, Bishop Bowman is survived by another daughter and five sons. They are: Mrs. George P. Smith, of Baltimore; Theodore G. Bowman, of Los Angeles; Charles and Thomas Bowman, of St. Louis; S. B. Bowman, of Denver, and C. B. Bowman, of Chattanooga.

The Right Rev. Thomas Bowman, D.D., LL.D., senior bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church—"The Patriarch of the Church," he was called—was born at Briar Creek, near Berwick, Columbia County, Pa., on July 15, 1817, more than ninety-six years ago.

As a boy he lived on a farm in eastern Pennsylvania. He went in his early teens to the Wilbraham Academy in Massachusetts. The next school was the Cassanovia Seminary in New York. There was a strong religious spirit at this institution, and it was during his stay there, when he was sixteen years old, that he joined the church.

ENTERS THE MINISTRY.

This completed his preparatory education, and old Dickinson College, at Carlisle, Pa., received him as a junior. Dickinson was, and is, a Methodist school, and President Durbin saw to it that the young man who stood at the head of his class was surrounded with influences which should secure him for the ministry.

Bishop Bowman's first charge was a horseback mission seventy miles long, and his annual salary was \$100 cash. But President Durbin thought it was a waste of good material to have one of his best pupils hid away in the wilderness of the mission field, and he asked him to come back to Carlisle and take charge of the grammar school. This place he held for a year. It was more than he could stand, however, and his health failed. His father died about this time, and there were other afflictions. It seemed that he was doomed to leave his work

ing on a hill built for an English—and it was his desire that the Methodists get it for their school and church. Of course, Ah Hok became a Methodist and all his family with him.

One thing that Bishop Bowman very proud of was the fact that he dedicated more than 1,100 churches in America. He was a man of extraordinary vitality and breadth of interest, and spite his great age, he maintained connections with the church up to time of his death. Of course, he obliged to retire from active Episcopal work many years ago, but even after had passed his ninetieth birthday made a practice of preaching occasionally from the pulpit of Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church at East Orange, of which he was a member. He always noted for his skill as a preacher and his appeal to young men was specially strong.

In East Orange he made his home, his son-in-law, Burns D. Caldwell, president of the Wells Fargo Express company.

GAZETTE & BULLETIN

MAR. 4, 1914

GRAND OLD MAN OF METHODISM DIED YESTERDAY

Gazette & Bulletin
Mar. 4, 1914
Bishop Thomas Bowman Passed
Away After Ninety-Seven
Years of Activity.

WAS FIRST PRESIDENT OF DICKINSON SEMINARY

Served as Head of That School
From 1848 to
1858.

Bishop Thomas Bowman, the first president of Dickinson Seminary and the senior bishop of the Methodist Episcopal church, died yesterday at the home of his daughter, in Orange, N. J. He was 97 years ago.

Bishop Bowman was the patriarch of Methodism in America. No other bishop in the service of that church ever reached such an advanced age. He had been affectionately known for a generation as the "Grand Old Man of the Faith."

Sixty-one years of Dr. Bowman's life were spent in active church service. It is the longest record known for continuous church work. He never took a vacation. Thirty-seven years were passed in preaching and in educating students in the creed of the Methodism, and twenty-four as a bishop.

President of Dickinson Seminary.

His career in the Methodist ministry was begun in the Baltimore conference in 1839. When that conference, in 1848, assumed the supervision over the old Williamsport Academy and changed its name to Dickinson Seminary, it placed Rev. Thomas Bowman at its head as president and made Benjamin H. Crever financial agent.

Bishop Bowman was president of the school for ten years when he resigned and was succeeded by Rev. John H. Dashiell.

Later Bishop Bowman became president of De Pauw university.

It was during this period that he served as president of the

Among the many Centre county pupils of Dr. Bowman at Williamsport, were several of the Curtins of that generation; those best remembered at this writing being James B., Andrew and Orlando, and as they were close neighbors with us the old school friendships were speedily revived. With them, too, as was the case with all who ever came under the influence of the Christ-like spirit and life of this man of God, reverence and love for him was an abiding enthusiasm.

It is related of Bishop Bowman that during his bishopric he dedicated eleven hundred churches. In the early seventies the Methodist church near Curtin station had been rebuilt and it was a matter of course that Bishop Bowman should be called to conduct this ceremony, and also that the writer and his wife should be invited to attend. The Bishop came, and at the close of the ceremonies we were invited to dine with him at the Curtin mansion. The meeting between their loved preceptor and the four or five of his old-time pupils, all of whom excepting the writer have passed into the beyond, extended through the delightful Sabbath afternoon, and the memory of it dwells with him as a thrice-distilled incense. Governor Curtin, another old friend of the Bishop, was also present, and he, too, has gone home.

One of the incidental meetings with this "Grand Old Man of the Faith" was while he was Chaplain of the United States Senate in the winter of 1864-65. He had his residence for that winter with one of his daughters in Baltimore, and went over to Washington upon session days to open the Senate with prayer at twelve o'clock, and then returned to his home; and it was upon one of these afternoon return visits that the writer had the pleasure of riding with him over the forty miles between the two cities, and reaffirming the beautiful friendship of his childhood. Subsequent meetings have been but few and far between; but the memory of them is a solace in the advancing years.

Perhaps the strongest characteris-

tic of Bishop Bowman was his desire to serve his fellow-men, and for them he would sacrifice all personal good or gain.

Good old man; how well in thee appears
The constant service of the antique world,
When service sweat for duty, not for need.

If it were possible for the presence of any man to brighten Heaven, then would Heaven be the more beautiful since Bishop Thomas Bowman entered the pearly gates.

Memorial Service

A Tribute to the Memory of the

Rev. Thomas Bowman, D. D., LL. D.

Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church



Born July 15, 1817

Graduated at Dickinson College, 1837

Entered the Ministry, 1839

President of Dickinson Seminary, 1848-1858

President of De Pau University, 1858-1872

Chaplain of the United States Senate, 1864-1865

Elected Bishop, 1872

Died March 3, 1914



Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church

East Orange, N. J.

Sunday Evening, March 22, 1914

Order of Service

Bishop Luther B. Wilson, D. D., LL. D., Presiding

ORGAN PRELUDE—Funeral March

Chopin

ANTHEM—"The Silent Land"

Gaul

Into the Silent Land! Ah! who shall lead us thither? Clouds in the evening sky more darkly gather, and shatter'd wrecks lie on the strand, lie thicker on the strand. Who leads us with a gentle hand thither, oh, thither, into the Silent Land. Into the Silent Land! To you, ye boundless regions of all perfection. Tender morning visions of beauteous souls. The Future's pledge and band! Who in Life's battle firm doth stand, shall hear Hope's tender blossoms, into the Silent Land! O Land! O Land! For all the broken hearted, the mildest herald by our fate allotted, beckons, and with inverted torch doth stand, to lead us with a gentle hand into the land of the great departed, into the Silent Land.

INVOCATION

HYMN 461—Stanzas 1, 3, 6, 7

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the
Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath
said,
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?
"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-
mayed,
For I am thy God, and will still give thee
aid;
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause
thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"E'en down to old age all my people shall
prove
My sovereign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And when hoary hairs shall their temples
adorn,
Like lambs they shall still in my bosom be
borne.

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for re-
pose,
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor
to shake,
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake!"

APOSTLES' CREED

SCRIPTURE LESSON

ANTHEM—"Rock of Ages"

Buck

Rock of Ages cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.
Let the water and the blood
From Thy side a healing flood
Be of sin the double cure,
Save from wrath and make me pure.

Should my tears forever flow,
Should my zeal no languor know,
This for sin could not atone,
Thou must save and Thou alone.
In my hand no price I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
When mine eyelids close in death,
When I rise to worlds unknown,
And behold Thee on Thy throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.

Order of Service

PRAYER

Rev. Thomas Nicholson, D. D., LL. D.

CONTRALTO SOLO—"Crossing the Bar"

Buck

Sunset and evening star,
And one clear call for me;
And may there be no moaning of the bar
When I put out to sea,
But such a tide as moving seems asleep,
Too full for sound or foam,
When that which drew from out the bound-
less deep
Turns again home.

Twilight and evening bell,
And after that the dark;
And may there be no sadness of farewell
When I embark.
For though from out the bourne of time and
place,
The flood may bear me far,
I hope to see my Pilot face to face
When I have crossed the bar.

ADDRESSES:

College Life of Bishop Bowman

Rev. Eugene A. Noble, LL. D., President of Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa.

Traditions at Williamsport

Rev. Benjamin C. Conner, D. D., Pres. Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, Pa.

Episcopal Memories

Bishop Wilson

The Aftermath

Rev. Fred Clare Baldwin, D. D.

PRAYER

HYMN 98 (Second Tune)

Bishop Bowman's favorite hymn

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
Like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in His justice,
Which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner,
And more graces for the good;
There is mercy with the Saviour;
There is healing in His blood.

For the love of God is broader
Than the measure of man's mind;
And the heart of the Eternal
Is most wonderfully kind.

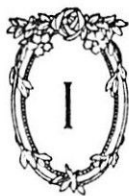
If our love were but more simple,
We should take Him at his word;
And our lives would be all sunshine
In the sweetness of our Lord.

—Frederick W. Faber.

BENEDICTION

ORGAN POSTLUDE—"Death of Ase" (Peer Gynt Suite)

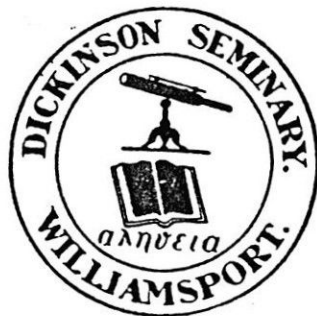
Grieg



IN THE DEATH of Bishop Bowman a beautiful life has ended, and a beautiful spirit has returned to its Maker. We can but sorrow that we shall see him no more; we can but rejoice that we have seen him at all. His life was a revelation; his presence was a benediction; his memory will be an inspiration. To him it was given to live a life of noble and loving service, and to spend a revered old age in the way of righteousness. Though advancing years interfered with his active labors, his ministry ended only with his life. The beauty of his saintly character, like the fragrance of precious ointment, diffused its sweetness into the atmosphere about him, and tempered the spirits of all with whom he came in contact.

To know Bishop Bowman was to love him. To lose him from the earth is to bind those that loved him to that for which he stood. How much that is admirable in character, how much that is worthy in ideals, how much that is noble in effort, should be ascribed to his influence we shall not know until the fulness of time shall bring the dawn of the eternal morning. But we shall meet life's duties with a calmer hope, we shall breast its storms with serener courage, we shall face its mysteries with stendier faith because he lived and dwelt among us. He, being dead, yet speaketh.

THE DICKINSON UNION

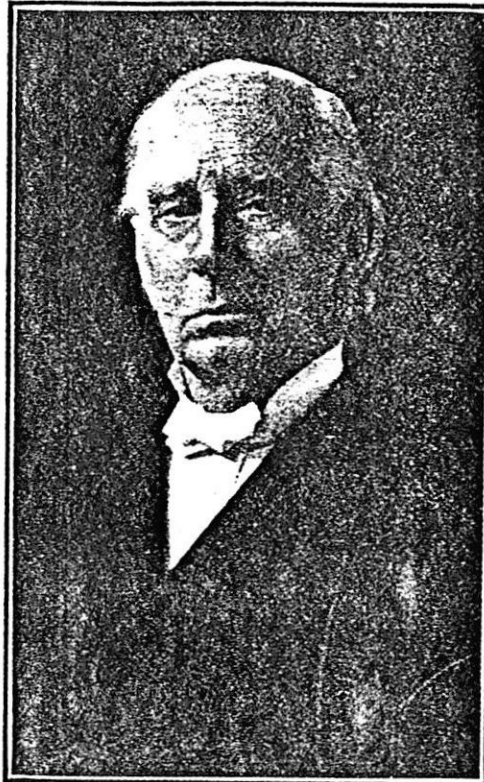


WILLIAMSPORT
PENNSYLVANIA

Vol. LXII

APRIL, 1914

No. 7



BISHOP THOMAS BOWMAN
THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF DICKINSON SEMINARY
Born July 15th, 1819. Died March 3rd, 1914.
(SEE PAGES 11, 12 and 13)

STUDENT'S RECITAL.

On Thursday evening, March 19, the Students of the Music Department gave a recital in the chapel. It consisted of solos, duets and quartets. Everyone did her part well and much credit can be given to the teachers in charge. The audience responded with hearty applause.

IN MEMORIAM

On March 3rd, 1914 Bishop Thomas Bowman, the first President of Dickinson Seminary, died. He was born July 15th, 1819 near Berwick. From his early boyhood he showed an ambition to acquire a good education, so his father sent him to Wilbraham and Cazenovia to prepare for College. He made rapid progress, and, having completed his preliminary studies, entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle, from which he was graduated in 1837, the valedictorian of his class.

Thomas Bowman then took up the study of law but his thoughts turned toward the ministry. One year after his graduation he entered the Baltimore Conference, and was appointed by Bishop Waugh to the Beaver Meadow Mission. In 1840 he was elected teacher in the Grammar School of Dickinson College. That position was held until 1843 when, on account of failing health, he managed a farm for five years. While teaching in the Grammar School at Dickinson College he became acquainted with Miss Matilda Hartman, of York, Pa., whom after a short courtship, he married July 13th, 1841.

In 1848, the Reverend Thomas Bowman was chosen as the first President of Dickinson Seminary, a school which had just been started and which consisted of only the first two stories of what now forms the present west wing of the building. Under Doctor Bowman's leadership the Seminary rapidly advanced. With the aid of his trustees, financial agent and friends, money was raised to erect what is the east wing of the building as it stands to-day. This cost \$10,000.00. In 1854 these two buildings were joined by a six-story building at a cost of \$42,575.08. These were trying days for the men at the head of the Seminary, but the seed was well sown and to-day Williamsport Dickinson Seminary stands as a monument showing the results of the efforts of the "Grand Old Man of the Faith."

In 1858 Doctor Bowman resigned from the Presidency and while serving the Lewisburg Church was elected President of De Pauw University, a position which he held for ten years. In 1864 he was elected Chaplain of the United States Senate, an office which he held for two sessions. In 1872 Doctor Bowman was elected a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church. During his tenure of office he dedicated more than one thousand churches and attended all the important conferences in the United States, Mexico, China and Japan. In 1896 he was retired.

In 1853 Mr. Bowman received the degree of D. D. from the Ohio Wesleyan University, and the degree of LL. D. from Dickinson College in 1872.

Bishop Bowman was a man of unusual ability and had a tremendous capacity for work. He was of a kind and amiable disposition and had practically no enemies, and was probably one of the best known bishops of

the Methodist Episcopal Church while in active duty, and was respected wherever he went.

A Memorial Service was held March 22, 1914 at the Calvary Methodist Episcopal Church of East Orange, N. J., the home of Bishop Bowman since 1896, at which service the following addresses were made:

"College Life of Bishop Bowman,"

The Reverend Eugene A. Noble,
President Dickinson College.

"Traditions at Williamsport,"

The Reverend Benjamin C. Conner,"
President Williamsport Dickinson Seminary.

"Episcopal Memories,"

Bishop Wilson.

"The Aftermath"

The Reverend Fred Clare Baldwin.

The Reverend J. H. Ake is arranging a memorial service to be held April 4th in the First Church, Berwick, the birthplace of the Bishop.

The following resolutions were drawn up by the Faculty and student body of the Seminary:

FACULTY RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, It hath pleased the Almighty God in His wisdom and love, to remove from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant our greatly loved and honored Bishop—Tomas Bowman; and,

WHEREAS, Bishop Bowman was the first President of the Williamsport Dickinson Seminary, and by his wisdom, self-sacrifice, and devotion laid deep and broad her foundations by which the school has been enabled in the years of her history to develop and maintain high standards of life and work and enjoy an enviable position among the institutions of its kind in the land and nation.

THEREFORE, Be it resolved that we, the Faculty of the Williamsport Dickinson Seminary, do formally express to the family of our honored Bishop our deepest sympathy and do commend them to the good Father, praying that sustaining grace may be given them;

SECONDLY, Be it resolved that it is the unanimous opinion that the Church, the cause of education, and all forms of charitable and philanthropic endeavor have lost in the death of Bishop Bowman an earnest friend and sympathetic observer, and a consecrated ally, and that we, sharers in part in the magnitude of his life's work, bow in submission to the loss we sustain, and are heartily thankful to almighty God that we have been permitted to enjoy in part the fruits of his labor first hand;

AND be it resolved that we cause a copy of these resolutions to be sent to the family of Bishop Bowman, and printed in The Dickinson Union, and spread upon the minutes of the Faculty.

Wilbur H. Norcross

Edna Albert

} Committee

STUDENT BODY RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, on the third day of March, just as the sun went down the sun of a new day rose in the life of Bishop Thomas Bowman, venerable in years, rich in faith, and strong in the esteem of his fellowmen; and,

WHEREAS, Bishop Bowman was the first President of the Williamsport Dickinson Seminary, and by his masterful hand guided the progress of our school through the struggle of her early years, and, laying the foundations of noble achievements of which we now reap the fruits and the blessings, immortalized the name of Dickinson.

THEREFORE, Be it resolved that we, the students of Dickinson Seminary, do hereby express our heart-felt sympathy to the family of our honored and beloved Bishop, praying that in this the hour of their sad bereavement they may abide in the grace of our almighty Father;

Be it further resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the family of Bishop Bowman and printed in The Dickinson Union.

Ira R. Duvall	
Homer C. Knox	
Mary R. Hartman	Committee
Helen Stackhouse	
Howard W. Butler	

PROF. SHELDON

Prof. Sheldon, of Connecticut Wesleyan gave us a very interesting and profitable address in the chapel on Wednesday morning March 25, concerning a college education. He stated that this is the day of automobiles, and that each one should steer the car and run at such speed as to get the best out of life as he goes along.

He urged that each one take time for preparation, showing wherein one will gain by doing this work. He said that college training tempers a life, the thing which opens the windows for future tasks, and gives wisdom to the student, which means the correction of the angles at the eye, so that he may see things as they are. He also said that a college education prepared one not to be ministered unto but to minister.

JUNIOR SLEIGH RIDE.

The morning of February 21 dawned bright and clear bringing joy to the hearts of the Juniors, who at eight o'clock gathered at the front entrance to leave for their sleigh ride to Smith's, a few miles from town. Two sleighs were ready to carry the happy crowd of Juniors, chaperoned by Miss Stevens and Prof. Frank, who proved excellent chaperones. It was not too cold to enjoy the ride out for we were bundled in very comfortably, but for fear of getting cold, songs were heartily sung by all.

Upon arriving, the amusement committee immediately tacked a long list of games on the door, some of which were played during the morning. As the room wasn't large enough for the entire crowd, three sleds were found, with which some of the crowd went coasting. This exercise prepared them for the hearty dinner of chicken and waffles with all that goes with them, which was served about noon. The dinner was enjoyed by all, but especially by two members of the class who raced to see how many waffles they could eat. Toasts were given by the President, Mr. Shaffner, and Prof. Frank. Others were called upon, but declined. A telephone message was sent to the honorable President of the Senior Class, wishing him and the Senior class a lovely lunch of baked beans, at the Seminary.